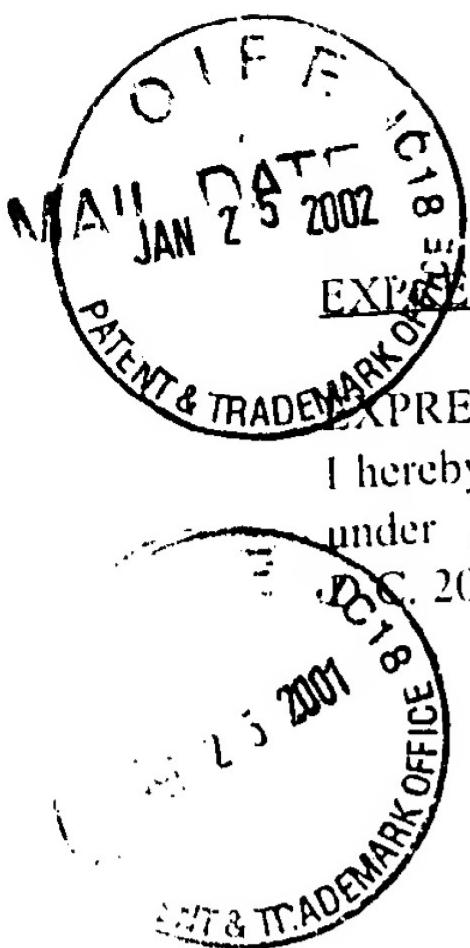


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(IP 1656)
SMP



EXPRESS MAILING CERTIFICATE

EXPRESS MAIL No.: EL 645 877 797 US

Deposited: October 25, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Ruth Montalvo

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/25/01
USPTO
CFC 494

Applicants: Hiroshi SHINOKI, et al.

Group: 1656

Serial No.: 09/706,405

Examiner: S. HOUTTEMAN

Filing Date: November 3, 2000

Customer No.: 026418

For: FIXATION OF NUCLEOTIDE DERIVATIVES
TO SOLID CARRIER

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action of April 25, 2001.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$920.00, the required statutory fee for a three-month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1529.

01/16/2002 CUDRACHA 00000074 09706405

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\$20.00 IP

October 25, 2001

Respectfully submitted,
REED SMITH, LLP

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